

~~SECRET~~

99

25X1

OCI No. 1744/65

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
2 June 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Situation in the Dominican Republic
(Report #256 - As of 7:00 am EDT)

The rebels have not yet reacted to Imbert's proposal calling for elections supervised by the Organization of American States (OAS).

Imbert's plan is likely to meet with an automatic veto by Caamano unless it can be presented in a wider context and not carry an exclusive Imbert stamp. As it now stands, the proposal does not deal with the key question of getting Caamano's agreement or with the nature of a provisional government. Presumably Imbert and his Government of National Reconstruction (GNR) plan to hold the reigns of power until elections are held.

Both sides agreed yesterday to the neutralization of the area around the National Palace. The agreement, which will go into effect at 12:00 noon EDT today, has lessened the possibility of renewed fighting in the area. Several blocks around the palace will be demilitarized and armed forces of both sides are precluded from entering or using the zone or any of the streets which establish its limits. The loyalists will be allowed to retain a symbolic force of 25 men in the palace.

Meanwhile, a group of Santiago and Santo Domingo civic leaders is continuing to seek a compromise formula to the political stalemate. Although the group primarily represents conservative banking and business interests, it hopes to devise a progressive program of government which would

25X1

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

25X1

[REDACTED]

meet the country's aspirations. The civic leaders are concerned about the country's deteriorating economic situation and the possibility of trouble in the interior if the impasse in Santo Domingo continues.

Santo Domingo remained quiet during the night. Yesterday evening the rebels freed three US soldiers who strayed inadvertently into the rebel-controlled area earlier in the afternoon. Caamano told reporters that he believed the men crossed into his territory by mistake.

The Organization of American States (OAS) voted early today to send a three-nation committee to the Dominican Republic to assist in mediation efforts. The committee will be composed of representatives of the United States (Ambassador Bunker), Brazil (Ambassador Ilmar Penna Marino), and El Salvador (Ambassador Ramon Clairmont de Duenas). The committee will probably leave for Santo Domingo sometime today.

25X1

Despite rumors of incipient troubles in Santiago, La Vega and Bani, the countryside remains quiet though uneasy. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED]

In Santo Domingo, employee turnout for jobs in the GNR continues at a disappointingly low level. The number of employees actually at desks varies from about 10 to 50 percent. Dominican government workers are traditionally a lackadaisical group and the absence of organization and essential services, such as mail, has resulted in an almost complete absence of work. From 40 to 70 percent of the

25X1

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

25X1

employees show up to sign attendance sheets and then go home. With the OAS handling salary payments, the link between work and pay has been broken. The GNR, not daring to dismiss absent employees for fear they will join the rebels, is virtually helpless.

25X1

25X1

~~SECRET~~